

**GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON JUVENILE CORRECTIONS REFORM**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Monday, March 27, 2006**  
**10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**  
**Arizona State Capitol**  
**Basement Conference Room**  
**1700 West Washington**  
**Phoenix, Arizona**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Senator Bill Brotherton  
Nelba Chavez  
Lt. Manny Cota  
Jan Flaaten  
Janet Garcia

Rob Lubitz  
David McKell  
David Miller  
Donna Noriega  
Judge Emmet Ronan  
Margaret Trujillo  
Sherri Walton

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Eric Benjamin, M.D.  
Colette Brumbaugh  
Hon. Terence Hancy  
Tim Hardy  
Representative Pete  
Hershberger  
Derrick Johnson  
Paul Koehler  
Hon. Willardene Lewis  
Judge Anna Montoya-Paez  
Frank Rider  
Beth Rosenberg  
Hon. Gilbert Veliz

**STAFF**

Michael Branham  
Patti Cordova  
Marcella Crane  
Pat Erickson  
Lou Goodman

**GUESTS**

Stacy Reinstein  
Alan Stephens  
Russell Van Vleet  
Lynne Wiletsky

**I. Welcome and Review of Minutes**

Judge Emmet Ronan, Chair of the Governor's Task Force on Juvenile Corrections Reform, called the meeting to order.

**Motion: To approve the minutes of the June 9, 2005 meeting. The minutes were seconded and approved.**

**II. CRIPA Report Out**

Consultant Russell Van Vleet gave an update on current reform efforts undertaken by the Department and stated that the next six-month report will be issued on or after March 15, 2006. At the next Task Force meeting Mr. Van Vleet will be glad to address the group on the report findings.

Mr. Van Vleet stated that he hopes that most of the Unique File Numbers (UFN's) will be

in “substantial compliance” by the end of the three year monitoring effort conducted by the consultants. He views this process as a very strong effort by the ADJC administration to correct the deficiencies and to put in place the process for a safe environment. More importantly is sustaining “substantial compliance” for the long-term. Areas addressed by Mr. Van Vleet include:

- Suicide Prevention - all areas under this particular UFN are in “substantial compliance”, including training of staff, clinical staff properly screening of youth for suicide risk, and renovation of housing units;
- Progress has been made to integrate medical and behavioral files of youth;
- Efforts to receive court documents is of some concern and will be reviewed;
- All staff trained and re-trained on suicide prevention and carrying suicide kits;
- Management reports are gathered for all suicide attempts. Incidents are being tracked at a much better effort as well as debriefing meetings of key management if there is an attempted suicide;
- The Grievance process has greatly improved. There is now a process in place to resolve grievances and to track them with a new numbering system in place;
- The Youth Handbooks that have been updated and distributed to each youth have resulted in an increase in grievances, as expected; however those numbers should level off in time;
- Inspections and Investigations is having a major positive impact on the operations and culture of the Department;
- “Coaching Teams” are going very well and having a good impact on helping staff understand their job and as it relates to policies and procedures. Taking “seasoned staff” to assist new staff will go a long way in making ensuring consistency;
- Mr. Van Vleet feels that the youth are a lot safer and the culture of ADJC is beginning to change. Another major positive impact is the increase in staff training;
- Recruiting and retaining of staff is still a concern, as well as the amount spent on overtime;
- The pay raise package going through the legislature this session will partially address the salary for the YCO series;
- The Department’s Quality Assurance has audited three facilities and those reports are sent to the consultants for their review. Those reports are helpful;
- The use of exclusion is much better and has decreased. The policy is now consistent and logs are legible. Mr. Van Vleet was concerned about the over usage of exclusion by staff as a way of dealing of youth. Furthermore, Mr. Van Vleet stated that a way to judge the culture of a facility is to look at the number of times staff use exclusion and how they explain or justify the reasons;
- All four schools are in compliance with the North Central Accreditation;
- All four facilities are addressing 24 hour nursing coverage as well as other medical and dental UFN’s.

Task Force members expressed an interest in reviewing the audit reports compiled by the Department’s Quality Assurance unit.

**Motion: To have the Department make available the audit reports produced for the Task Force review. The Motion was seconded by David McKell and approved.**

Task Force members discussed the role of the Task Force as it would pertain to an Advisory Board, similar to what the State of Missouri has established for their juvenile justice system. Mr. Van Vleet stated that the make up of the board should be smaller and should include community representation.

**Motion: To research how other national model states utilize community boards for improving the juvenile justice system (detention through corrections). Judge Ronan tasked Beth Rosenberg as Chair of this subcommittee and to report back to the Task Force. The Motion was seconded by Tim Hardy and approved.**

### **III. ADJC's *New Freedom* Core Programming**

Dr. Kellie Warren, Clinical Services Director for the agency, presented an overview of the Department's core treatment programming called New Freedom. New Freedom is a comprehensive substance abuse and behavioral health program which includes more than one hundred and forty easy-to-use workbooks (grade 4-6 reading level) and related materials which address both educational and therapeutic goals. All work is based on cognitive-behavioral (CBT), motivational enhancement (MET), social learning, risk factors management, and relapse prevention approaches. The workbooks include topics such as

- Returning Home
- Aggression and Violence
- Phoenix, Gang Intervention Programs
- Special Resources for behavioral health and dual disorders programs (including grief, depression, anger, self-injury, conduct disorder, eating disorder and ADHD)
- Women's Program Resources
- Una Libertad Nueva, a comprehensive Spanish language substance abuse and behavioral health program resource

New Freedom will be implemented at all the facilities, beginning with Catalina Mountain School in February 2006. Training for staff is ongoing and the program will be sustained.

### **IV. Strategic Planning Report**

Judge Ronan tabled the discussion of the report prepared by Phil Harris for the next Task Force meeting.

### **V. Public Comment**

No public comment was made at this meeting.

The meeting was adjourned by Judge Emmet Ronan, Chair.

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